

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for polishing a semiconductor wafer, in which the semiconductor wafer is polished by continuously driving a surface plate on which a plurality of polishing pads are stuck, the surface of each of the polishing pads being provided with a plurality of  
5 grooves each extending in the drive direction of the pad,  
the method comprising the steps of:  
sticking the plurality of polishing pads on the surface of the surface plate; and  
polishing the semiconductor wafer by pressing the wafer against the surface of each  
said polishing pad with the surface plate driven,  
10 wherein in the sticking step, the polishing pads are stuck in such a manner that the  
grooves of each said polishing pad are spaced not to align with the respective grooves of  
the polishing pad adjacently arranged in the drive direction of the surface plate.  
2. The method of claim 1, wherein in the sticking step, the polishing pads are stuck  
in such a manner that the grooves of each said polishing pad are offset by a predetermined  
15 distance from the respective grooves of the polishing pad adjacently arranged in the drive  
direction.  
3. The method of claim 1, wherein in the polishing step, the semiconductor wafer is  
polished with slurry containing abrasives flowing on the surfaces of the polishing pads.  
4. A polishing pad for a semiconductor wafer,  
20 wherein the polishing pad is stuck on the surface of a belt-type surface plate, and  
a plurality of grooves extending in the drive direction of the polishing pad are  
formed over the entire width from edge to edge of the polishing pad in the direction  
perpendicular to the drive direction.  
5. The pad of claim 4, wherein the plurality of grooves are formed at regular  
25 intervals.  
6. The pad of claim 4, wherein the polishing pad is made of polyurethane foam.  
7. A polishing pad for a semiconductor wafer,

wherein the polishing pad is stuck on the surface of a belt-type surface plate, and  
in the surface of the polishing pad, a plurality of grooves extending in the drive  
direction of the polishing pad are formed at an angle relative to the drive direction.

8. The pad of claim 7, wherein the plurality of grooves are formed at regular  
5 intervals.

9. The pad of claim 7, wherein the polishing pad is made of polyurethane foam.